1: Krasheninnikov N-5 (1736-40) 1764 Kamchadal

ſledges, and other uſes. The women at this time are busy ... their hemp of nettles, in pulling it up, watering, breaking, pee... ing, and laying it up in their balagans.

The men in the winter hunt for ſables and foxes, weave fiſhing nets, make ſledges, fetch wood, and bring their proviſions from ſeveral places, which they had prepared in the ſummer, and could not bring home in the harveſt. The women are principally employed in ſpinning thread for nets.

In the ſpring, when the rivers begin to thaw, the fiſh that wintered in them go towards the ſea; and the men are buſied in catching them or the ſea animals that at this time frequent the bays. The people upon the Eaſtern Ocean catch the ſea beaver. All the women go into the fields, where they gather wild garlick, and other young tender herbs, which they uſe not only in a ſcarcity of other proviſion, which often happens at this ſeaſon of the year, but likewiſe out of luxury; for ſo fond are they of every thing that is green, that during the whole ſpring they are ſeldom without having ſome of it in their mouths; and though they always bring home a great bundle of greens, they ſeldom laſt them above a day.

Beſides the above-mentioned employments the men are obliged to build their huts and balagans, to heat their huts, dreſs victuals, feed their dogs, flea the animals, whoſe ſkins are uſed in cloathing, and provide all houſhold and warlike inſtruments: the women are here the only taylors and ſhoemakers, for they dreſs the ſkins, make the cloaths, ſhoes, and ſtockings: it is even a diſgrace for the men to do any thing of that ſort; ſo that they looked upon the *Ruſſians* who came here firſt in a very ridiculous light, when they ſaw them uſe either their needle or awl. The women are likewiſe employed in dying ſkins, in conjuration, and curing of the ſick. Their method of preparing and dying ſkins, ſewing and joining them, is as follows: every ſkin which they uſe

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uſe for cloaths, ſuch as deer-ſkins, ſeals, dogs, and beavers, they prepare one way: in the firſt place, wetting and ſpreading it out, they ſcrape off all the pieces of fat or veins that remained after ſleaing it, with ſtones fixed in pieces of wood; then rubbing it over with freſh or ſour caviar, they roll it up and tread it with their feet 'till the hide begins to ſtink; they again ſcrape and clean it, and continue this 'till the ſkin is ſoft and clean. Such ſkins as they want to prepare without the hair they uſe at firſt in the ſame manner as above; then hang them in the ſmoke for a week, and afterwards ſoak them in warm water to make the hair fall off; at laſt rubbing them with caviar, by frequent treading and ſcraping them with ſtones, they make them clean and ſoft. 281

They dye the deer and dog ſkins, which they uſe for cloathing, with alder bark cut and rubbed very ſmall; but the ſeal-ſkins, which they uſe either for cloathing, ſhoes, or ſtraps for binding their ſledges, they dye in a particular manner: having firſt cleaned off the hair they make a bag of the ſkin, and turning the hair ſide outward they pour into it a ſtrong decoction of alder bark; after it has lain thus ſometime, they hang it upon a tree, and beat it with a ſtick. This operation they repeat 'till the colour is gone quite through the ſkin; then they rip it open, and ſtretching it out, dry it in the air; at laſt they rub it 'till it becomes ſoft and fit for uſe. Such ſkins are not unlike dreſſed goat-ſkins: however, *Steller* ſays that the *Lamuſhki* have yet a better way of preparing them. Theſe ſkins they call *mandari*, and they are worth three ſhillings a-piece. The hair of the ſeals, with which they ornament their cloaths and ſhoes, is dyed with the juice of the red wortleberry boiled with alder bark, alum, and lac lunæ; which makes a very bright colour. They uſed to ſew their cloaths and ſhoes with needles made of bone, and inſtead of thread they made uſe of the fibres of the deer, which they ſplit to the ſize or thickneſs required. 281 386 294 412 293

They

7:Lesseps T-3 (1787-88)1790 Kamchadal

000 entirely the view of it. The inhabitants of the country, whom I interrogated upon the ſubject, informed me we had juſt paſſed a bay of no very conſiderable width, and that the ſea was covered with ice as far as thirty werſts from the land.

361 At Khaluli, an oſtrog, ſituated upon a river of the ſame name, ſixty ſix werſts from Ouké, and at a ſhort diſtance from the ſea, I found but two yourts and twelve or thirteen balagans; but I had the pleaſure 281 of ſeeing a baidar covered with leather. 501 This boat was about fifteen feet long and four wide; the hull was made of planks tolerably thin, and croſſing each other; a longer and thicker piece of wood ſerved as the keel; the timbers were made faſt with leathern ſtraps; and the whole was covered over with ſeveral ſkins of ſea horſes and large ſea wolves.

7:Lesseps T-3 (1787-88)1790 Kamchadal

281/501 I particularly admired the manner in which theſe ſkins were prepared, and the compactneſs with which they were ſewn together, ſo that the water could not penetrate into the boat. Its ſhape was ſomewhat ſimilar to ours, but leſs round, and therefore leſs graceful; it converged towards the extremities, ſo as to terminate in a point, and had a flat bottom. The lightneſs of the common baidars, which makes them liable to be overturned, doubtleſs gave riſe to this mode of conſtructing them, by which they acquire more weight. This boat was placed under a ſhed built on purpoſe to protect it from the ſnow. The toyon of Khaluli having given up his yourt to us, we ſlept in it, being unable to proceed till the next day. The wind had increaſed ſince our arrival, and did not abate till the middle of the night.

000 At ten o'clock in the morning we had loſt ſight

22: Guillemard T-2 (1882) 1886 Kamchadal

563 whole of the labour and material necessary for its construction was being gratuitously given by the inhabitants. I am obliged to record the fact that the building did not appear to be progressing with very great rapidity.

000 The weather of the previous day showed little signs of improvment. A biting wind with rain and sleet at intervals made us not sorry that we had settled to take a Sunday's rest here. Some fifteen miles or so to the eastward is a fine range of mountains about five thousand feet in height, which the downpour of the day before had covered to the lower slopes with fresh snow. Here and there a passing touch of sunlight fell upon the peaks and threw them out in bold relief against the leaden sky. But, late and cold as it was, the fishing had not ceased, and by the river-side they were cleaning and preparing Kisutchi—the latest salmon that visits Kamschatkan waters. Numbers of the King Salmon (*O. orientalis*) hung drying in the balagans; many of very large size.

132 The current of the river is rather swift here and at Werchni, and
133 we learnt that it does not usually freeze completely over until the end of January. It would seem as if the severity of the frost were never very great until that month. The snow invariably falls throughout the country in October, or even earlier, but it is seldom fit for sledge-travelling until November.

281 While at Melcova we tried to get some of the reindeer-skin
291 dresses of the country, as we had already felt the cold considerably in European clothes, and knew that at this season the thermometer would sink steadily from day to day. They had none for sale in the settlement, and we had to send over to Werchni Kamschatka for them. These dresses are of two kinds, the *kuklankas* and *parkas*, and are merely loose sacques composed of pieces of reindeer-skin beautifully dressed, and sewn together with thread made from the sinew of the animal, just as are the "karosses" of South Africa. They are provided with a large bearskin hood, and are put on over the head without fastening of any kind. The rest of the costume is composed of a pair of breeches of like nature, and boots almost

22: Guillemard T-2 (1882) 1886 Kamchadal

281/291 exactly resembling those in use in Lapland,—made of soft leather throughout, the sole included. The toe is slightly turned up, probably to keep the feet in place when in snow-shoes, and the

OUR COSTUME ON THE LOWER KAMSCHATKA.

boot is tightly stuffed with fine hay, which is intended to supply the place of stocking and sole combined. The *kuklanka* is merely a double *parka*, having the fur both outside and inside.

000 On the morning of the 4th September we left Melcova and